WE CLAIM:

1. A multi-information-character surveillance imaging system comprising

a plural-imager housing-contained assembly of surveillance imagers including (a) an optical, daytime, color video imager, (b) an optical, nighttime, light-intensified, black-and-white video imager, and (c) a thermal imager, each of said imagers being provided with computer-adjustable imager parameters control structure,

computer-controllable, motor-actuatable mounting structure operatively mounting and supporting the housing-contained imager assembly for selective and controlled surveillance tracking via generally vertical panning and generally horizontal tilting motions,

a computer, and

a user-operable controller interface operatively interposed said mounting structure, said imager parameter control structures in said imagers, and said computer, said interface including a touch-screen display device touchable by a user to effect computer-implemented imager parameter adjustments, and a joystick instrument manipulable by a user to effect computer-controlled, motor-driven surveillance tracking motions of said assembly.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein said interface is also structured, via said touch-screen display device, to enable free and variable user selection of the specific imager, or plural imagers, which are to perform imagery tracking and surveillance at any given point in time.

3. The system of claim 2 which further includes screen imagery display structure which is operatively connected effectively to at least a portion of that structure with respect to which said computer is operatively interposed, said display structure being operable to display visual, surveillance imagery information selectively drawn from any one or more of said imagers.

4. A multi-information-character, surveillance-imaging enabling method comprising

furnishing a capability for gathering plural-mode imagery employing (a) a computer-controllable, optical, daytime, color video imager, (b) a computer-controllable optical, nighttime, light-intensified, black-and-white video imager, and (c) a computer-controllable thermal imager, where computer-controllability regarding thses imagers includes the capabilities of varying the respective imagers' operating parameters, and coordinatedly, and simultaneously, panning and tilting the imagers' points of view,

operatively connecting a computer to the furnished computer-controllable imagers, and

providing a one-hand-enabling, user-operable controller interface which is operatively connected to the computer, and which includes a touch-screen display device touchable by a user to effect computer-implemented imager operating-parameter adjustments, and a joystick instrument manipulable by a user to effect computer-controlled, coordinated, simultaneous panning and tilting of the imagers' points of view.